Washington, DC - Less than two weeks after releasing a report revealing a pay discrepancy on Joint Base McGuire/Dix/Lakehurst, Congressman John Adler passed a Sense of Congress in support of pay parity for the Joint Base. Included in the bipartisan National Defense Authorization Act of 2010, the Sense of Congress sends a clear message to the Office of Personnel Management that all federal civilian employees on the Joint Base should be paid equally under the higher locality pay in Ocean County. The National Defense Authorization Act, which details the Department of Defense's annual budget, passed overwhelmingly in the House of Representatives this afternoon.

"We need to keep jobs in New Jersey," said Congressman Adler, who represents Joint Base McGuire/Dix/Lakehurst. "Congress today sent a clear message in support of keeping military families in New Jersey. I am committed to making sure that civilian employees, who live and work in our neighborhoods and on our bases, are paid fairly."

Today, Congressman Adler also participated in a colloquy with Chairman of the House Armed Services Committee Ike Skelton. The colloquy on the floor demonstrated Congressman Adler's determination to secure pay parity on the Joint base and Chairman Skelton's support of the issue. You can view Congressman Adler's remarks here.

Earlier this month, Congressman Adler released a report revealing a pay discrepancy on Joint Base McGuire/Dix/Lakehurst. On a conference call with reporters, Congressman Adler explained that New Jersey is now home to the only joint base that crosses over two separate pay areas, meaning civilian employees physically located at the former McGuire Air Force Base and Fort Dix are making less than their colleagues located on the former Lakehurst Naval Engineering Station.

Congressman Adler has also introduced legislation that would prevent pay issues at the Joint Base.